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Troy's Action Team Set to Tackle Water Street Problem

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(March 31, 2004- TROY)- Troy's Action Team will attack a longstanding problem today by cleaning up a makeshift dump that has developed in the past decade along Water Street in South Troy.

Located just off the Menands Bridge, Water Street has long been a place sought out by illegal dumpers for everything from beds to furniture to trash to brush. The City will begin the extensive cleanup of the street beginning at 10 A.M. Wednesday.

Mayor Harry Tutunjian will join with crews from the Department of Public Works to clean up the site. DPW Commissioner Bob Mirch estimates there is 150 tons of trash sitting along Water Street. The City will use several pieces of heavy equipment from Dan's Hauling to pick up the debacle, which is located on land owned by Troy and Por-Tec.

"This area of Water Street has become a dump over the past decade, and it is one giant eyesore," Tutunjian said. "Obviously something needs to be done about it. While the cleanup is important, it is only the first step in keeping it clean."

"This goes hand in hand with our every day goal of making Troy a cleaner place to live," Tutunjian said. "It will be cleaned up and will be kept clean."

The City has two ways it will go about attacking the issue at Water Street once everything is cleaned up. Beginning this week, the street will be shutdown during the night to deter illegal dumpers. The City is also working on a surveillance system for the area.

The final step in the cleanup is legislation that Tutunjian is asking the City Council to pass Thursday night that would strengthen the laws for illegal dumping, and reward those who turn violators in.

All members of the media are invited to join with the Mayor and DPW employees Wednesday morning.